

PATENT Docket No. 001.003.14

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

:

Douglas M. Sheffield, Jr.

.

Serial No. 08/914,628

Examiner: R. Dye

Filed: 8/19/97

Group Art Unit: 1314

Title: VACUUM ACTUATED

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Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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### Petition to Add Joint Inventor Under Rule 48(a)

SIR:

It is respectfully petitioned that the above-identified patent application he amended to add Tamara Sheffield as a joint inventor. The original application was made though error and without any deception intent, in the sole name of one of the co-inventors, Douglas M. Sheffield, Jr., as will be more apparent from the appendices attached hereto.

In support of this petition, the applicant submits the following:

- (1) Verified Statements of Facts by both of the joint inventors Douglas M. Sheffield, Jr. and Tamara Sheffield, (Appendix A).
- (2) A substitute Declaration under 37 CFR 1.65 executed by all of the actual inventors and Power of Attorney (Appendix B).
  - (3) The fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(h)

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that this Amendment be entered and Tamara Sheffield be added as a named co-inventor in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/914,628.

Respectfully submitted,

Veo Peoples, Jr., 27,048

Attorney-at-Law

Haverstock, Garrett and Roberts

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# Verified Statement of Named Inventor Under Rule 48(a)

Dear Sir:

等格は我職時代のおければられているのであるとなるとなっているとのできます。

# Douglas M. Sheffield, Jr. declares that:

The inventions described and claimed in the above-described patent application as filed and as amended by the accompanying Amendment A were developed in part by me, and in part by my wife Tamera Sheffield during 1996 to 1997 at our home in St. Louis, Missouri.

We unexpectedly discovered factors essential to expanding the original concept of my invention disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,714,215 so that other configurations could be accorded self-suction functionality.

I inadvertently overlooked my wife's independent contribution at the time that I originally executed the above-described patent application. Upon reflection after reviewing the Examiner's statements and upon advise of counsel, her practical suggestions that assisted in making the main idea operative are sufficient to make her a co-inventor.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

May 18,1999

Daugha M. Sheffield H.

Veo Peoples, Jr., 27,048

Attomey-at-Law

Haverstock, Garrett and Roberts 611 Olive Street, Suite 1610 St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Phone: (314) 231-9775 Fax: (314) 231-2044

5/20/99 Date

Examiner: R. Dye

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#### Verified Statement of Unnamed Inventor Linder Rule 48(s)

Door Sir:

#### Tamara Sheffield declares that:

The inventions described and claimed in the above-identified patent application and as amended in the accompanying Amendment A were developed by my husband Douglas M.

Sheffield and I at our home during 1996 to 1997.

I suggested various practical solutions to the problems that my husband encountered in perfecting the design of the display ornaments claimed in the above described invention and as amended in Amendment A. For example, I suggested essential and effective design for specialty display ornaments such as alphabet letters, numbers, etc. for use by pre-school children.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information end belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are

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punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

May 19, 1999 Date Tamara Sheffield

Veo Peoples, Jr., 27,048

Attorney-at-Law

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Phone: (314) 231-9775 Fax: (314) 231-2044

5 /20 /99 Date